

The odds seem against this. The Deficit Commission may embrace debt-to-GDP targets and aim for a "primary balance" (excluding interest payments) because it's easier politically. Consider: In 2020 the deficit will be \$1.254 trillion on spending of \$5.67 trillion, projects the Congressional Budget Office. Closing that gap would require steep tax increases or deep spending cuts. But \$916 billion of the projected deficit represents interest payments. Ignoring them instantly "solves" three-quarters of the problem.

The message from Europe is that this approach ultimately fails. Intellectually elegant evasions are still evasions. Though financial markets may condone lax government borrowing for years, confidence can shatter unexpectedly. Lenders retreat or insist on punishing interest rates. Market pressures then impel harsh austerity—benefit cuts or tax increases—far more brutal than anything governments would have needed to do on their own. We are, by inaction and self-deception, tempting that fate.

HONORING ELIZABETH BROWN WILSON

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker: Whereas, in 1931 a virtuous woman of God was born and today we gather to pay tribute for her life's work; and

Whereas, Elizabeth Brown Wilson, not only talked the talk, but she walked the walk as it related to community service for all the citizens in our district; and

Whereas, Elizabeth Brown Wilson has served our district well as a commissioner for the city of Decatur, an advocate and activist for seniors and as mayor of the City of Decatur, being the first African American woman to serve as mayor; and

Whereas, this wise elder and woman of God has shared her time and talents for the betterment of her community and her nation through her tireless works, words of encouragement and inspiration that have been and continue to be a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Elizabeth Brown Wilson for her outstanding leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim May 22, 2010, as Elizabeth Brown Wilson Day in the Fourth Congressional District.

FEMALE VETERANS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I'd like to take a minute to remember all of our heroic soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who have given their lives while fighting for our Nation's freedom. Their patriotism and bravery are the foundation of our Nation's history and I am honored to pay tribute to them in front of the United States Congress for Memorial Day.

I'd especially like to call attention to the women who have stepped forward and put their lives on the line for our country throughout the decades. Women began taking part in our armed forces nearly 220 years ago, and they have been serving courageously, selflessly, and with perseverance ever since. Their service went unrecognized for far too long, but in 1997, a Women's Veterans Memorial was established in Washington to honor these great American heroes. Likewise, I honor the impact our women veterans have had on our Nation and our freedom through their dedication and sacrifice.

My District, the 11th to District of Georgia, is home to many Servicewomen of the United States Armed Forces—both active duty and retired. I am extraordinarily proud of and grateful for these brave American women on this Memorial Day—and every other day.

HONORING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILFORD SENIOR CENTER

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate 40 years of elderly care and companionship at the Milford Senior Center, the first and oldest senior center in Milford and one of the top ten places in the country for single retirees, according to U.S. News and World Report last year.

Four decades ago this month, the Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church opened what would become the Milford Senior Center in three rooms in their church basement. Today, the Center boasts its own sprawling 30,000-square-foot facility, with an auditorium, dining hall, lounge, music room, and, for those senior citizens bravely foraying into 21st century technology, even a computer lab.

And along with providing a wonderful environment for seniors to socialize and relax, the Milford Center provides a number of important services for the community, from meals on wheels to free blood pressure screenings to energy and income tax assistance. Their Ahrens Program, while offering much-needed respite to caregivers, helps seniors with cognitive impairments to eat well, learn, and play.

All too often, one's "golden years" can be filled with struggle. Health concerns, the loss of independence, a profound sense of loneliness—these are just some of the challenges our seniors can face in later years. But senior centers like Milford, and the invaluable programs, services, and activities they provide, help to stem these obstacles. They make a real difference in the lives of some of our most vulnerable citizens. Thanks to Milford, elderly citizens can come together, get the help and resources they need to thrive, and, in short, have fun.

My deepest thanks go out to the staff of the center for all the good they have done over the past 40 years. Congratulations on reaching this milestone, and here's to many more such anniversaries in the future. Your caring each and every day reminds us, as it reminds so many of Milford's seniors, that age is really just a state of mind.

NORCO COLLEGE, 112TH COLLEGE IN THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Norco College as an independent college of the Riverside Community College District and congratulate the entire college community for its success in becoming the 112th college in the California Community Colleges system.

Since 1916, Riverside Community College District has served as an institution of higher education in western Riverside County. In 1991, the district created the Norco Campus as an education center to serve the communities of Corona, Norco, Eastvale and areas of Riverside County. When Norco's doors opened in March 1991 there were 3,088 students enrolled. Now, nearly 10 years later, that number has increased to more than 11,000.

Norco College offers a full complement of lower division courses in liberal arts, sciences, humanities and basic skills education, while offering specialist career technical programs in engineering, electronics, computer information systems, architecture, manufacturing, logistics, construction, game simulation and development, and commercial music.

On January 29, 2010, the Norco Campus received approval to become Norco College, thereby establishing it as the 112th college in the California Community Colleges system. And on June 10, Norco College will celebrate 531 students as its inaugural graduating class of 2010.

The process for gaining full accreditation status has been 8 years in the making for Norco, and I commend all those involved for their diligent efforts—including faculty, staff, students and administrators. I assure you, your dedication has not gone unnoticed and has yielded an achievement worthy of your efforts. Congratulations again, on this important milestone in Norco College's history.

GRATITUDE FOR THE SERVICE OF RENATA STRAUSE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of the most dedicated and productive members of the Judiciary Committee staff for her service to the House, Renata Strause. For 3½ years, Renata has worked with exceptional dedication and drive for the Judiciary Committee, and I rise to commend her for her achievements.

After graduating from high school in Lancaster, PA, Renata began her professional career before attending college when she worked for a year as a legislative aide to State Representative P. Michael Sturla in the Pennsylvania State General Assembly. After putting together the first annual Lancaster Legislative Weekend, Renata matriculated at Oberlin College in Ohio during the Fall of 2002.